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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Leake et al.

Examiner: To be assigned

Serial No.:

10/613077

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed:

01 July 2003

For:

Stabilized Polynucleotides for Use in RNA Interference

Customer No.:

23719

23719

Kalow & Springut LLP

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFI

488 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor

New York, New York 10022

19 August 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

A check for \$1,770.00 is enclosed for excess claim fees, corresponding to the addition of 8 independent claims and 61 dependent claims with this amendment. Before examination on the merits, please enter the following amendments in the above-identified application:

95/21/5690 - July Gudoccij accessyy

Agricon Company

17. 3.3

Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. & 1.10

I hereby declare that on the date indicated below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail Label No. EV 035746725 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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TOR SHERMA

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9 August 200

(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)

(Date

Applicant: Leake et al. Serial No.: 10/613,077 Filing Date: 01 July 2003 Preliminary Amendment August 19, 2003 Page 15 of 15

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 10 and 19 to rectify a typographical error. Claims 7-20 have been renumbered to become claims 6-19 because the application as filed did not have a claim 6. Applicants have added new claims 20-88. New claims 20-88 are pending as claims 1-69 in the parent application, Application Serial No. 10/406,908, filed 02 April 2003, to which this application claims priority. The parent application has been incorporated by reference into the present application. Thus, the new claims add no new matter. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

The fee required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment is enclosed. If any further fee is deemed necessary, or overpayment has been made, authorization is hereby given to charge or credit the amount of any such fee or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0171.

Respectfully submitted,

Tor Smeland

Registration No.: 43,131 Attorney for Applicant

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